



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 27 February 2009

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



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- The Boston Globe reports that the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, reacting to concerns raised after three gas explosions in recent months, announced Wednesday it would review the 12 explosions that have occurred in the state during the past five years. (See item [2](#))
- According to Computerworld, the U.S. Federal Communications Commission may fine 600 operators for failing to properly file annual reports proving that they protect customer data. (See item [32](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Nuclear Reactors](#); [Materials and Waste](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#); [Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#); [Information Technology](#); [Communications](#); [Commercial Facilities](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

Federal and State: [Government Facilities](#); [Emergency Services](#); [National Monuments and Icons](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical**: ELEVATED, **Cyber**: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *February 26, Youngstown Vindicator* – (Ohio) **Worker injured in explosion at East Side company in critical condition.** In Youngstown, Ohio, a 46-year-old worker was blown off scaffolding when a fiery explosion rocked Virgin Oil Ltd. and remained in critical condition the morning of February 26 at the Akron Children's Hospital burn unit. Reports show the severity of the man's injuries as life threatening. The plant separates brine, oil and gas collected from well heads. The explosion took place in a holding tank at 2:18 p.m. on February 25. Aside from propelling the burn victim off scaffolding, the explosion blew out a side of the metal building. The fire chief said a representative of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency took samples for testing.

He said a fire captain, while on a catwalk trying to get to the fire, ended up submerged in a vat of product when the platform gave way. Luckily, the chief said, another fire captain was behind him and pulled him out. The captain's gear was ruined, as well as his radio. The chief said the captain left to take a shower, get fresh gear, and then returned to the fire scene.

Source: <http://www.vindy.com/news/2009/feb/26/worker-injured-in-explosion-at-east-side-company/?newswatch>

2. *February 25, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **State regulators to probe gas explosions.** Reacting to concerns raised after three gas explosions in recent months, the state Department of Public Utilities announced on February 25 that it would review all the explosions that have occurred in the state during the past five years. The department's review is intended "to make sure that there isn't some sort of pattern that we should be concerned about," said, a spokesman for the state's Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, which oversees the DPU. He stressed the department has no reason to believe right now that there is a pattern. But the decision comes as authorities investigate three explosions that have killed two people and seriously injured another person over the last three months. (A fourth explosion that officials suspected was caused by gas killed a man this week in Manchester, New Hampshire.) The incidents should serve as "warning flags" for officials to seriously look at the state's gas infrastructure, as the roughly 20,000 miles of pipeline are aging and in need of repair a director of analysis at the MIT Energy Initiative, told the Globe last week after an explosion killed a woman and her dog in Somerset. The state has seen a total of 12 gas explosions over the past five years, beginning with an explosion in Sudbury January 13, 2004.

Source: http://www.boston.com/news/local/breaking_news/2009/02/state_regulator.html

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Chemical Industry Sector

3. *February 26, EE Times Europe* – (Tennessee) **Wacker to expand silicon production in the U.S.** Wacker Chemie AG has announced measures to expand its polysilicon production in North America. The company plans to invest about \$1 billion to build a production site in the U.S. state of Tennessee. The Munich-based company has bought a plot in Bradley County, Tennessee, for about \$20 million where it plans to establish a silicon production line. The plans include the creation of about 500 jobs at this location. A company spokesperson declined to elaborate on the time line and the expected production capacity. "We just have bought the plot", she said. "Other parameters are subject to decision." The Wacker Chemie CEO said that the Tennessee location was selected for its good infrastructure as well as for the support the company had experienced through local authorities and business partners.

Source: <http://eetimes.eu/germany/214600147>

4. *February 25, Biloxi Gulfport Sun Herald* – (Mississippi) **Overtaken truck causes chemical leak.** Firefighters in Gulfport, Mississippi worked into the night on February 25 on a caustic chemical leak after an 18-wheeler overturned at the Interstate 10

westbound ramp from U.S. 49 North. The fire chief said the rig, which had a boxcar trailer, was heading to New Orleans with a load of tetrabutyltin when it overturned around 4:30 p.m. Gulfport police said the driver was leaving U.S. 49 and apparently lost control at the top of the ramp. The weight of his load caused the vehicle to tilt over, landing on the driver's side of the cab, said an officer and police spokesman. The officer said the chemical is transported in 250-gallon plastic containers "in wire-meshlike enclosures. We don't yet know how many containers are in there or if one of the tops popped off or has a rupture." The cleanup required bringing in a different truck to carry off the containers. Other precautions were being taken to deal with the chemical that leaked out, the officer said.

Source: <http://www.sunherald.com/local/story/1165430.html>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

5. *February 26, KXNT 840 Las Vegas* – (National) **Budget provides minimal funding for Yucca.** The Presidential Administration will employ a blue ribbon panel to review alternatives for dealing with highly radioactive waste. The President's budget outline, released Thursday, indicates funds will be slashed for the Yucca Mountain program except for costs associated with answering inquiries from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The Energy Department, for the present, still plans to seek a license to allow the waste to be stashed at Yucca Mountain.

Source: <http://www.kxnt.com/Budget-Provides-Minimal-Funding-For-Yucca/3923257>

6. *February 26, Reuters* – (New Jersey) **Exelon takes NJ Oyster Creek reactor off line.** Exelon Corp took the 619-megawatt Oyster Creek nuclear station in Ocean County, New Jersey off line the morning of February 26 to connect a new transformer, the company said in a release. A spokesman for the plant could not say how long the unit would remain off line due to competitive reasons. Electricity traders guessed it would take a few days to install the new transformer. While the transformer is being connected, Exelon will leave the reactor running at about 20 percent to help keep the water temperature in the discharge canal at a level that does not impact aquatic life, the company said.

Source:

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/governmentFilingsNews/idUKN2654703820090226?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>

7. *February 25, Associated Press* – (Utah) **Court to hear arguments on radioactive waste dump.** A federal judge is set to hear oral arguments on February 26 in a lawsuit filed by a nuclear waste disposal company that says an interstate compact that includes Utah does not have authority to regulate the country's only commercial radioactive waste dump. Salt Lake City-based EnergySolutions Inc. filed the lawsuit because the compact is refusing to let the company dispose of up to 1,600 tons of low-level radioactive waste from Italy at its Clive, Utah facility, about 70 miles west of Salt Lake City. "In a nutshell, we do not believe that under the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy Act that the Clive facility is a quote, 'regional disposal facility', and therefore if

we're not a regional disposal facility then we are not under the jurisdiction of the Northwest Compact," said an EnergySolutions spokeswoman.

Source: <http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2009/02/25/ap6096597.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

8. *February 25, Lockheed Martin* – (National) **Second Lockheed Martin F-35B STOVL fighter achieves successful first flight.** Lockheed Martin's short takeoff/vertical landing (STOVL) F-35B Lightning II accomplished its first flight on Wednesday, February 25. The aircraft, known as BF-2, joins a conventional takeoff and landing (CTOL) F-35A and another STOVL F-35B that already have logged a combined total of 84 flights. During its flight on Wednesday, BF-2 went through a series of maneuvers to assess its subsystems and basic handling qualities, and to check on-board instrumentation. Subsequent missions will take the aircraft higher and faster, in a structured series of flights. BF-2 is on schedule to deploy to Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland, later this year. It will remain in Fort Worth for the next several months to conduct a series of ground-test events, instrumentation calibrations, powered hover-pit testing and airworthiness flights, including STOVL-mode operation. Initial flights will be in conventional mode.

Source: <http://sev.prnewswire.com/aerospace-defense/20090225/DA7564425022009-1.html>

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Banking and Finance Sector

9. *February 25, Reuters* – (Connecticut) **U.S. money managers accused of \$550 mln fraud.** Two money managers who oversaw investments for Carnegie Mellon University and other institutions were arrested on February 25 on charges of running an estimated \$550 million, decade-long swindle. The managing general partners of broker-dealer WG Trading Co., with main offices in Greenwich, Connecticut, were charged by U.S. prosecutors with conspiracy, securities fraud and wire fraud. The pair is accused of using client money as "their personal piggy-bank" to fund lavish lifestyles, according to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. The SEC and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission brought civil charges against the men and their companies, which also include WG Trading Investors LP and investment adviser Westridge Capital Management Inc in Santa Barbara, California. The SEC obtained a court-imposed asset freeze against the men and their affiliated entities.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/companyNewsAndPR/idUSN2548564220090225>

10. *February 25, Reuters* – (National) **FDIC says U.S. bank deposits robust, to raise premiums.** U.S. banking regulators are not pursuing nationalization of troubled institutions struggling to shed toxic assets from their balance sheets, the head of the chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp (FDIC) said on February 25.

“Nationalization means different things for different people but nationalization is not the route we’re pursuing now,” the FDIC chairman told reporters after speaking to a group of bankers in New York. The chairman and other U.S. regulators are crafting a rescue package to help banks regain their footing by injecting capital, enticing private investors to buy bad assets and aiding millions of borrowers who have lost, or facing losing, their homes. The FDIC is slated to release industry earnings and other financial data for the fourth quarter soon. Many expect bleak financial results, but the one bright spot could be a growth in deposits, indicating consumer confidence. “It’s been a tough quarter,” the chairman told the bankers. She, however, told them some good news. “Deposit growth was robust,” the chairman said. “Insured deposits are stable.

Source: <http://www.cnbc.com/id/29399207>

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Transportation Sector

11. *February 25, Washington Post* – (Maryland) **Md. man arrested for shining laser at news helicopter.** A Silver Spring man who shined a laser pointer at a news helicopter was arrested Wednesday morning, Montgomery County Police said. Officers responded to the man’s home, where they found him holding the laser that he shined at the passing helicopter because it annoyed him, police said; he then shined it in an officer’s face. The man was arrested and charged with one count of disorderly conduct, three counts of reckless endangerment, and two counts of prohibited use of a laser pointer.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/02/25/AR2009022503006.html?wprss=rss_metro

12. *February 25, Eureka Times-Standard* – (California) **Long-awaited runway project takes off.** The Humboldt County Public Works director told the Board of Supervisors Tuesday that slightly more than \$9 million in Federal Aviation Administration funds are on the way to Humboldt County — the bulk going to improve the Arcata-Eureka Airport’s main runway. Currently, the FAA has issued a waiver to its runway safety standards to allow larger jets to land at the Arcata-Eureka Airport; with the grants, public works will be able to update the landing areas and waivers will no longer be necessary. The two main elements are extending the length of the main runway and adding an Engineered Material Arresting System, or EMAS, an area to slow aircraft that go off the runway — similar to areas adjacent to highways to stop runaway semi trucks.

Source: http://www.times-standard.com/localnews/ci_11780508

13. *February 25, Crain’s New York* – (New York) **Port Authority will push for air traffic upgrade.** The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey launched a lobbying effort on Wednesday aimed at getting Congress to fund a \$22 billion upgrade to the nation’s air traffic control system. The authority has organized a coalition of business groups, transportation advocates and airlines to push for the new technology, called NextGen, which is an advanced global positioning system for airplanes. The coalition wants the funding included in the Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization bill, which will be taken up by Congress this year. Full implementation is expected to take 20 years. “The international business community has been frustrated by flight delays at New York

airports,” said the partnership’s president. “They’re telling us they’re cancelling trips and conferences because our airports just aren’t efficient.”

Source: <http://www.crainsnewyork.com/article/20090225/FREE/902259975>

14. *February 25, Beverly Citizen* – (Massachusetts) **Security regs could ground Beverly airport.** New stricter security guidelines the federal Transportation Security Administration is considering could have a stifling effect on private and charter planes at Beverly Airport. Airport administrators say if the rules are implemented they are not sure how they will pay for them and question if they are the best way to spend money to upgrade security at small airports that do not have regularly scheduled commercial service. Proposed regulations would require all private aircraft with a takeoff weight over 12,500 pounds to fingerprint its pilots and crew and conduct background checks, take passenger lists and check them against terrorist watch lists and screen baggage.
Source: <http://www.wickedlocal.com/beverly/news/x594724422/Security-regs-could-ground-Beverly-airport>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

15. *February 26, Winchester Star* – (Virginia) **Powdery substance forces SU evacuation.** An envelope containing an unidentified powdery substance was delivered to Shenandoah University in Winchester, Virginia on February 25, causing a building evacuation and a response from a hazardous-materials team. Swathed in white plastic suits, a Virginia State Police hazmat team entered Wilkins Hall, Shenandoah’s administration building on the campus, on the evening of February 25 to retrieve the suspicious envelope and the substance it contained. “No one will be allowed access to the building until the lab results from the state police come back,” said a city police spokeswoman. She said concerns about the potentially hazardous substance began around 3:30 p.m. on February 25 when an employee in the university’s admissions department opened a letter, apparently from a prospective student in Turkey. Upon opening the envelope, the employee felt a powdery substance on her hands and fingers, said the police spokeswoman. Though all authorities treated the envelope as though it contained a dangerous substance, a U.S. postal inspector called to the scene said the powder was unlikely to be anthrax.
Source:
http://www.winchesterstar.com/showarticle_new.php?sID=6&foldername=20090226&file=Powdery%20substance_article.html

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Agriculture and Food Sector

16. *February 26, Associated Press* – (California; Oregon; Washington) **West coast salmon numbers up, but not enough.** The Pacific Fishery Management Council said on February 25 that there are barely enough chinook returning to California’s Sacramento River to spawn a new generation. That will likely mean no sport or commercial salmon

fishing off California and little off Oregon, for fear of unintentionally killing too many Sacramento fish swimming with more prevalent stocks, the head of the salmon section for the Portland-based council said. Last year's collapse was blamed primarily on poor ocean conditions producing little for salmon to eat. Fishermen and conservation groups also pointed to large irrigation withdrawals from the Sacramento Delta as juvenile salmon were migrating to the ocean in 2005 and 2006. Scientists have said a switch in climatic conditions in recent years has produced more food in the ocean, setting up more abundant salmon returns in 2010. In coming decades, salmon are expected to have it tougher, as warming temperatures reduce the amount of water stored in mountain snowpacks, diminishing flows in rivers where salmon spend the first part of their lives. The Klamath River forecast was also up, but marked the fourth straight year below what is needed for a new generation. Low returns to the Klamath have been a perennial headache for fisheries managers due to dams, logging, and poor water quality.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/02/26/AR2009022600345.html>

17. *February 25, Drovers* – (International) **Extremist attacks on global food chain increase.** Attacks on the global food chain from animal-rights and environmental extremists jumped 42 percent — from 155 in 2007 to 220 in 2008 — according to the Arlington, Virginia-based Animal Agriculture Alliance. The information compiled by the alliance showed that Animal Liberation Front (ALF); Earth Liberation Front (ELF); DBF, a branch of ALF found in Sweden and the Netherlands; and related groups claimed a total of 640 acts of sabotage, vandalism, and arson in 2008, up from 467 in 2007, an increase of over 35 percent. The overall level of animal-rights extremist attacks in the United States on businesses that use animals — including medical research, consumer product safety, pets, circuses, rodeos, fur shops, hunting stores, farmers, ranchers, food retailers — surged nearly 40 percent. An even more troubling development is the massive expansion of damages inflicted upon food retailers. Destruction or defacement of property — especially smashing windows, etching windows, and painting (or paint bombing) windows, buildings, vans and billboards — were the techniques most frequently used by extremist groups in their attempts to intimidate food chain businesses to shut down. The groups also adopted a new technique this year, using sponges to block toilets and urinals to cause expensive flooding and extensive clean-up.

Source: http://www.drovers.com/news_editorial.asp?pgID=675&ed_id=5270

18. *February 25, Drovers* – (California) **Feds cut off water for agriculture.** Farmers in California are reeling after an announcement February 20 by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation that no water is available for agriculture use, the result of a worsening drought. San Joaquin Valley farmers will be hit hard, as the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation supplies more than 80 percent of the water to the valley. Farms supplied water by the state will still receive 15 percent of their normal deliveries. Early reports indicate that more than 75,000 jobs will be lost, \$2 billion will disappear from the economy and more than 1 million acres will not have access to above-ground water. Farmers will be forced to take water away from annual crops and use available groundwater to keep permanent crops alive. This means an even greater dependence placed on the groundwater supply,

already overtaxed in many parts of the valley.

Source: http://www.drovers.com/directories.asp?pgID=675&ed_id=5271

19. *February 25, NewsInferno* – (California) **USDA recalls chicken bouillon ineligible for import.** The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has announced a recall of about 89,531 pounds of Wei-Chuan Granulated Chicken Bouillon products. The Wei-Chuan Granulated Chicken Bouillon has been recalled because of its ineligibility for import into the United States, said the USDA. The recall is a Class II recall, in which a health hazard situation exists with a remote probability of adverse health consequences from the use of the product, in this case Wei-Chuan Granulated Chicken Bouillon USA, Inc., products from Wei-Chuan USA located in Bell Gardens, California. The recalled Wei-Chuan Granulated Chicken Bouillon has been recalled because it does not meet either poultry products inspection or poultry exemption requirements. Specifically, said the USDA's FSIS, it could not be determined that the poultry ingredients used in the manufacture of the recalled Wei-Chuan Chicken Bouillon were prepared under inspection as required by either domestic federal regulations or under a foreign inspection system determined to be its equivalent. A poultry ingredient is determined to be ineligible when the source of the ingredients cannot be determined, as is the case in this recall. The problem with the recalled Wei-Chuan Chicken Bouillon was discovered after Customs and Border Protection notified FSIS of the ineligible imported products which originated from an unapproved source.

Source: <http://www.newsinferno.com/archives/4814>

20. *February 24, New York Times* – (New York) **Plan to post Health Dept. grades in restaurants gets mixed response.** The postings, a first for New York, are part of an ambitious new food-safety program announced last month by the commissioner of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. The city's nearly 25,000 restaurants will be compelled to prominently display their inspection grade, either an A, B, or C. The lower the grade, the more often the restaurant will be inspected. New York's new program will require hiring some 50 inspectors — adding to the current roster of 117, with 60 already focusing on restaurants — at a cost of nearly \$5 million over two years; this comes as budgets for the department and other city agencies are being reduced. The program has touched off opposition from the restaurant operators' trade group. The director of public health for Los Angeles County said an independent study showed that its letter system had not only reduced food-borne illness outbreaks associated with restaurants, but also had lowered associated hospitalizations by 20 percent. New York officials plan to issue letter grades on the spot after inspections, but — in another sore point for restaurateurs — do not plan to change the process for challenging a finding: a hearing three weeks later at the administrative tribunal.

Source:

http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/25/nyregion/25inspect.html?_r=1&pagewanted=1

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Water Sector

21. *February 26, San Francisco Chronicle* – (California) **S.F. pushes PG&E on bay sediment toxicity probe.** Hazardous chemicals in bay sediment near San Francisco's single remaining large power plant threaten the health of people and marine life, yet Pacific Gas and Electric Co. has been slow to investigate the problem, according to Port of San Francisco officials and city leaders. The carcinogenic chemicals are byproducts of coal tar left over from industrial uses at the eastern waterfront site. Independent toxic chemical experts say they have no doubt that the contaminants have been migrating from the soil to the bay sediment for years in concentrations that are unsafe for marine life and humans. PG&E only now is starting to fully study that issue. Port of San Francisco officials want PG&E to move more quickly to analyze the sediment and remove it if necessary. They are calling for state regulators to impose strict deadlines. The port owns property on and off the shore east of the Potrero Power Plant site and at Pier 70, which abuts the property to the north. Port officials say that coal tar-related chemicals were found on their side of the property line and believe that they traveled in groundwater from the power plant. A former research chemist for Chevron was hired by the city to review reports completed by environmental consultants in 2000 and 2001. He said those reports showed extremely high levels of toxics in the offshore mud. "The levels in the sediment were roughly 100 times what the Environmental Protection Agency suggests for soil and drinking water," he said. Contamination has likely increased over the years because the coal tar-related compounds continue to seep into the bay, he said.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2009/02/25/MNUM16574E.DTL>

22. *February 24, Lexington Herald-Leader* – (Kentucky) **Water in Letcher County remains contaminated.** An advisory against using water from Whitesburg's system will not be lifted until at least March 4, according to the state Division of Water. An estimated 3,000 households in Whitesburg and parts of Letcher County have been warned against using the water for drinking, cooking or bathing since February 16. A diesel-fuel spill contaminated the city's raw-water source, the North Fork of the Kentucky River. State officials have heard reports of people using the water for bathing despite the advisory. People should heed the warning and not use the water for anything but flushing toilets, said a spokesperson for the Division of Water. There are health concerns about using water contaminated with diesel fuel, the spokesperson said. The fuel allegedly leaked from large, damaged petroleum tanks stored at a site on the river upstream from Whitesburg. Employees started flushing the system on February 21, something they could not do earlier because detectable levels of diesel were still coming into the water plant, the spokesperson said. Tests at mid-week showed concentrations of diesel fuel in the system four times greater than the maximum recommended for drinking water by one federal registry, the spokesperson said. The state is having the water tested with a method that takes three days to complete.

Source: <http://www.kentucky.com/news/state/story/704519.html>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

23. *February 25, Bloomberg* – (International) **Ranbaxy drug reviews ended by U.S. on falsehood claim.** Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd., India's biggest drugmaker, will not be allowed to introduce new generic drugs from one of its factories after it falsified data about products' shelf life, U.S. regulators said. The Food and Drug Administration suspended reviews of new products at Ranbaxy's Paonta Sahib facility. The agency "has not identified any health risks" linked to the estimated 25 generic drugs already approved using data from the plant, and patients should continue taking them, according to an e-mailed statement. Paonta Sahib and another of Ranbaxy's four factories in India have been barred from sending 30 products to the United States since September because of manufacturing failures. The FDA asked Ranbaxy under the new restrictions to fix the problems and hire an independent inspector for the plant.
Source:
<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601101&sid=aNSIyF6jpues&refer=japan>
24. *February 25, Red Orbit* – (Texas) **Most released Texas HIV-infected prisoners do not fill prescriptions.** Only 30 percent of released Texas prisoners infected with HIV filled prescriptions for highly active anti-retroviral drugs within 60 days of their release — a factor that has serious public health implications, said a consortium of researchers from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and Baylor College of Medicine in a report that appeared Wednesday in the Journal of the American Medical Association. "This has both public health and individual health implications," said the assistant professor of medicine-infectious diseases at BCM and medical director of HIV services and the Thomas Street Health Center, where people with HIV receive care through the Harris County Hospital District. Interruptions in treatment can lead to the development of resistant strains of the virus as well as allowing the levels of virus in the blood to increase, putting the prisoners at risk of acquiring a variety of infections and increasing the risk of transmission of the virus to others.
Source:
http://www.redorbit.com/news/health/1644734/most_released_texas_hivinfected_prisoners_do_not_fill_prescriptions/
25. *February 25, Keene Sentinel* – (New Hampshire) **Jaffrey company reopens after bomb threat.** Millipore Corp., a Jaffrey, New Hampshire company that specializes in bio-manufacturing and life-science research, including stem cell research, reopened about three hours after it was evacuated Wednesday during a bomb scare. A written threat was discovered around 10:30 a.m. in one of the bathrooms of the Millipore building, and between 250 and 300 employees were evacuated, according to a company spokeswoman. The threat stated that the bomb or bombs would detonate at 1 p.m., so firefighters, police and Millipore's security team waited until that time, and when nothing happened they entered and searched the building, finding nothing.
Source:
<http://sentinelsource.com/articles/2009/02/25/news/local/free/doc49a58f0f3e841658812802.txt>
26. *February 24, Associated Press* – (New Mexico) **Proposals would allow court-ordered TB treatment.** The New Mexico House Tuesday passed a measure that would let the

Department of Health go to court when tuberculosis patients who do not follow treatment risk transmitting the disease. The threat lies in patients not adhering to treatment, developing resistance to tuberculosis drugs, then spreading the drug-resistant form of the disease. The bill would allow the state agency to petition a court to give therapy under observation, isolate the patient, or both. The proposal requires regular court review of cases and gives patients the right to an attorney. It would not allow forcible administration of medications.

Source: <http://www.kvia.com/Global/story.asp?S=9898287&nav=AbC0>

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Government Facilities Sector

27. *February 26, Navy Times* – (Washington) **P-3 mishap: 2 pilots short on flight hours.**

Two of the three pilots on board the P-3 Orion that narrowly averted catastrophe in 2008 when it plummeted nearly 6,000 feet in 25 seconds were not current with flight-time requirements, an internal Navy report shows. In addition, when the aircraft began to shake violently and an engine malfunctioned, the crew fell into “scope lock” and did not strictly follow the Navy’s air training standards, according to the Judge Advocate Manual investigation, obtained by Navy Times. However, those issues did not result in any disciplinary action stemming from the July 22, 2008 incident near Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington, according to the report. The P-3 from Patrol Squadron 1 was conducting a training flight in which one of its four engines was shut down on purpose. But a second engine on the same port wing malfunctioned, rolling the aircraft violently and sending it spiraling toward the ground at 290 knots. The plane was pulling more than 5 Gs before the aviators were able to restart the first engine to recover at less than 200 feet and land safely. After the incident investigation, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing 10 revised its rules so that pilots who are not current on proficiency requirements will not be assigned as patrol plane commanders without approval from a commanding officer, according to the investigation’s endorsements.

Source: http://www.navytimes.com/news/2009/02/navy_P3mishap_022609/

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Emergency Services Sector

28. *February 25, Science Daily* – (National) **First responders: Random antenna arrays**

boost emergency communications. First responders could boost their radio communications quickly at a disaster site by setting out just four extra transmitters in a random arrangement to significantly increase the signal power at the receiver, according to theoretical analyses, simulations and proof-of-concept experiments performed at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). The NIST work may provide a practical solution to a common problem in emergency communications. The vast amount of metal and steel-reinforced concrete in buildings and rubble often interferes with or blocks radio signals. This was one factor in the many emergency communications difficulties during the response to the attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Antenna arrays have been studied and used for years, but

the latest NIST work provides several new twists. Unlike the typical case in which antenna arrays boost signals to or from a distant target, a first responder's radio would be relatively close to the portable transmitters, ideally within the perimeter of the array. More importantly, since disaster sites rarely allow for niceties of design, NIST studied the benefits of a fast and imprecise technique — randomly placed antennas combined with coarse signal matching. The signals produced by the radio and portable transmitters need to operate at the same frequency and roughly in phase, such that the radio waves are fairly well synchronized and thus build on each other. Phase-matching was performed manually in the experiments but might eventually be possible remotely.

Source: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/02/090225151337.htm>

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Information Technology

29. *February 26, Apple Insider* – (International) **New phishing scam targets MobileMe users.** In another attempt to con MobileMe users into providing their credit card information, a scammer has sent out spam spoofed to appear to come from Apple, which directs users to a fake site designed to look like Apple's. Users who follow the email link and enter their information on the poorly formatted, fake Apple Web page will be sorry. While sent with a spoofed sender address of noreply@me.com, the spam's headers indicate that it actually appears to originate from gamma.oxyhosts.com, a server operated by a Web hosting outfit from the United Kingdom. The email contains formatting errors that should immediately tip off users, and directs to a sketchy URL: <http://apple-billing.me.uk>. The email's headers that indicate it was sent using Outlook Express, but those are only visible when the user examines the phony email's raw headers. Of course, Apple itself has also sent out official MobileMe notices containing the same formatting error. Apple also does not sign or encrypt its official emails to users, a step that might help in thwarting the regular phishing attempts that target MobileMe users. While Apple pioneered certificate based security in iChat messaging for its MobileMe users, it has been a laggard in making it easy for users to sign and encrypt their MobileMe email using certificates issued by Apple, despite support in Mail and most other modern email clients to handle this. The significant difference in the real message from Apple over the phony spam is that Apple's official email cites the account's User Name, the ending digits of their credit card number, and directs the user to navigate to MobileMe themselves to correct their information within the online account section, rather than providing a link to follow. Doing so would result in the user initiating a MobileMe Web session secured via SSL before they are ever prompted to enter their private account information. There is no SSL security on the fake site users are directed to by the spam. The fraud site is hosted by me.uk, a domain not affiliated with Apple, but which might sound reasonably correct to many users. The domain appears to be registered to "Nike Jegart, co 9 Vista Estrella South, Lamy, NM 87540."

Source:

http://www.appleinsider.com/articles/09/02/26/new_phishing_scam_targets_mobileme_users.html

30. *February 25, DarkReading* – (International) **Report: More than 500,000 Web sites hit**

by new form of SQL injection in '08. A new flavor of an old-school Web attack was responsible for compromising more than 500,000 Web sites last year. An automated form of SQL injection using botnets emerged as the popular method of hacking Web sites, according to a newly released report from the Web Hacking Incidents Database (WHID), an annual report by Breach Security and overseen by the Web Application Security Consortium (WASC). The report also found that attackers increasingly are targeting a Web site's customers rather than the sensitive information in the site's database. "It used to be that mostly e-commerce sites were targeted, but now it's potentially any site, especially those with a large customer base," says the director of application security research for Breach Security. "The attackers say, 'You're going to become a malware-launching point for us.'" The so-called Mass SQL Injection Bot attacks basically automate the infection process; the Nihaorr1 and Asprox botnets both deployed this method last year, according to the report. "In the past, they had to do some manual reconnaissance with SQL injection to send the initial queries," the director says. The automated approach sent one request with a script that automated all of those recon steps, using bots to perform the attacks. "While the initial attack vector was SQL Injection, the overall attack more closely resembles a Cross-Site Scripting methodology as the end goal of the attack was to have malicious JavaScript execute within victims' browsers," the WHID reports says. "The JavaScript calls up remote malicious code that attempts to exploit various known browser flaws to install Trojans and Keyloggers in order to steal login credentials to other web applications."

Source:

<http://www.darkreading.com/security/attacks/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=SOIH2N3YE2BCQSQSNDLOSKH0CJUNN2JVN?articleID=214600046>

31. *February 25, Washington Post* – (International) **Adobe issues security update for Flash Player.** Adobe Systems Inc. has shipped an update for its ubiquitous Flash player that fixes at least five security flaws. A few of the flaws are critical, meaning users could have malicious software installed on their system merely by visiting a Web page that features a booby-trapped Flash movie. Individuals will need to apply two different versions of this patch: One is designed for Internet Explorer, and another updates the Flash player in Firefox, Opera and Safari. This can be accomplished by visiting the Web site twice, once with IE, and then again with Firefox or whichever other browser they are using. The patch plugs security holes in Flash player 10.0.12.36 and earlier. Updates are available for Flash versions made for Windows, Mac OS X, and Linux.

Source:

http://voices.washingtonpost.com/securityfix/2009/02/adobe_issues_security_update_f.html?hpid=sec-tech

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

Communications Sector

32. *February 25, Computerworld* – (National) **FCC threatens 600 operators with fines over data protection rules.** The U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) may fine 600 operators for failing to properly file annual reports proving that they protect customer data. Telephone companies and voice-over-IP providers are required to submit to the FCC annual certifications proving that they have taken reasonable measures to protect against pretexting, or the practice of pretending to be a person or a law enforcement agent in order to obtain telephone records. Operators must also show the FCC that they have kept records of all instances when they disclosed customer information to a third party and report on customer complaints they have received regarding unauthorized release of their information. The FCC found that last year, 600 operators either did not file reports to the agency at all or they filed noncompliant reports. The FCC proposed a fine of \$20,000 for operators that did not file at all and \$10,000 for those that filed noncompliant reports. The carriers will be allowed to argue against the fine or demonstrate reasons to reduce the penalty due to an inability to pay it, the FCC said. In a statement, the FCC's acting chairman said that the annual filings are essential for the agency to ensure that operators are complying with the privacy regulations. He also said he hopes the fines will help ensure compliance in the future.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9128663&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top

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Commercial Facilities Sector

33. *February 26, Associated Foreign Press* – (International) **Fire erupts in Islamabad's Marriott Hotel.** A fire erupted at the luxury Marriott Hotel in Islamabad, Pakistan February 26, injuring at least five people, two months after it was partially reopened following a suicide truck bomb that killed 60 people. "We have evacuated five injured people," a rescue worker told AFP. The blaze broke out on the second floor, where repair work was under way, a spokesman for the owner of the hotel said. On September 20, 2008 a suicide bomber rammed a truck packed with 1,300 pounds of high explosives into the outer gates of the hotel. The Marriott has since been surrounded by a massive, bomb-proof wall and visitors are guided through metal detectors and an X-ray machine. The hotel is due to become fully operational in March, when all 289 rooms will be available to guests. Meanwhile, the Marriott's eight restaurants and coffee shops, which were fully refurbished after the bomb attack, have already reopened.

Source:

http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/djf500/200902260731DOWJONESDJO_NLINE000755_FORTUNE5.htm

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

34. *February 26, National Parks Traveler* – (Washington) **Mount Rainier National Park to test warning siren this weekend.** Mount Rainier National Park will test its Geohazard Warning Siren at the Nisqually Entrance at noon on Saturday, February 28. Park officials want to test the new system and attempt to familiarize visitors, local residents, and staff with the siren in the event of an actual geohazard. The Geohazard Warning Siren is designed to warn park staff and visitors of sudden geohazards, including lahars and smaller debris flows. Without warning, debris flows and glacial outburst floods can occur at any time, eroding stream banks and scouring everything in their paths, including rocks and trees. In case such an emergency occurs within the park, it is recommended that visitors head up hill, away from rivers and streams and rising water. Park officials say some residents of Pierce and Lewis counties might hear the siren once activated.
Source: <http://www.nationalparkstraveler.com/2009/02/mount-rainier-national-park-test-warning-siren-weekend>

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Dams Sector

35. *February 26, Associated Press* – (New Hampshire) **City to remove aging dam on Monday.** An aging dam in Manchester is being removed to eliminate a safety hazard and restore more than seven miles of habitat for migratory fish. The water around the Maxwell Pond Dam on Black Brook was once considered the purest source of ice in Manchester, but the thriving stream has become stagnant and now supports only a few warm water fish species. The dam, which will be removed on March 2, also aggravated flooding and threatened a nearby bridge.
Source:
<http://www.concordmonitor.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090226/NEWS01/902260348/1043/NEWS01>
36. *February 25, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Cost of keystone Corps project protecting Industrial Canal area doubles.** The keystone project of the Army Corps of Engineers' effort to protect the New Orleans area from 100-year storms, a combination of gates and a concrete barrier to protect the Industrial Canal, has nearly doubled in cost, the head of the Corps told a House subcommittee Tuesday. The barrier project — the largest single water project contract ever awarded by the Corps in the United States — had been expected to cost \$695 million. Now, the Corps estimates it could reach nearly \$1.3 billion. The new price tag has state and local officials worrying that the \$14 billion appropriated by Congress for levee improvements will not be enough to complete all necessary projects to protect from surges from hurricanes with a 1 percent chance of hitting the area in any given year, called a "100-year" storm. More money will not be needed, provided Congress gives the Corps permission to move dollars from other scheduled levee work, the Corps chief of engineers told lawmakers Tuesday. The Corps chief did not reveal which projects the money would come from, but told the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development that he remains confident New Orleans will get its 100-year protection in time for the 2011 hurricane season, as promised.

Source:

http://www.nola.com/news/index.ssf/2009/02/cost_of_keystone_corps_project.html

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